

# FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

"PERSEVERE AND SUCCEED."

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## The Farmer's Advocate!

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Letters enclosing remittances, &c., only acknowledged when specially requested. Our correspondence is very heavy, and must be abridged as much as possible.

## FREE! FREE! FREE!

To all NEW subscribers to THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE for 1876, the balance of the year 1875 from the time the subscription is received will be sent free, that is, the paper will be sent to January 1, 1877.

New subscribers will be considered those whose names have not appeared on our books during 1875.

We trust this liberal proposal will induce every present reader and friend of the paper to use his best efforts to extend the circulation and usefulness of their favorite paper.

## The Provincial Exhibition of 1875.

This Exhibition, as most of our readers are aware, took place in Ottawa on the 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th of September. The citizens of Ottawa, or those who took part in making preparations for it there, have been most indefatigable in their exertions to satisfy the public requirements. The Exhibition grounds were in good order; ample buildings had been erected for the stock, manufacturers' and arts departments, and for mechanical tools. The building for grain, fruit and vegetables was not quite large enough to contain all that was brought to the Exhibition. A wide and substantial sidewalk had been made from the city to the grounds, two miles in length. The water accommodation has not been equalled at any Exhibition; good water was conducted from the city in pipes, giving an abundance of excellent water for all purposes. The great advantage Ottawa has over all other places is that steamboats could land their passengers on the grounds by means of the Rideau Canal, which passes along the side of the grounds. There were about a dozen steamers running between the city and the grounds; they were well patronized and arrived and left about every quarter of an hour, and visitors were able to avoid all dust. Bands of music added much to the pleasure of visitors.

In addition to this attraction of the Exhibition, the sight of the handsome, substantial, massive Parliament Buildings was the admiration of the visitors. In our opinion, they are superior to the British Parliament Buildings. The site on which they stand is very grand, as it is a high eminence overlooking the Ottawa river. The banks are very steep, nearly perpendicular, but having trees growing up the side. After a person has once seen the locality and buildings, and consults the map of Canada, the selection of the locality appears to be about as good as could have been made.

The city is rapidly improving, although the lumber business, which is a great support, is in a depressed state at present. But business must return; the present stringency and lack of confidence cannot long remain. Ottawa must become a large and important city. The line of railroad leading to it from Prescott passes through the most miserable looking part of the country we have ever travelled. The land is low and wet, and is, we understand, owned by large capitalists. It must be drained. This and all lands withheld by capitalists from actual settlers should be taxed high enough to compel the owners to sell or make them productive.

The visitors that attended the Exhibition found ample accommodation in the city at reasonable rates, very different to what had been expected. The Exhibition was a good one. In stock the competition for prizes was not near as large as at the Exhibitions when held in the western portion of the province, but the quality of the stock was good.

The implement department was well represented. Vegetables were very good. In spring grain the display was superior to our western exhibitions this year, greater competition and good quality deserving special commendation. Fruits were also well represented. In the fine art department we noticed paintings that we thought highly meritorious. Poultry was but poorly represented.

At one of the gates a bag containing over \$60 was very strangely purloined. Many purses were found and nailed up in the building for owners to claim, or to warn others of danger. Many also left minus their watches.

Exhibitors attend exhibitions with a view of effecting sales, but probably at no Provincial Exhibition we have attended were there fewer transactions in this line than at Ottawa.

We will now make a few remarks which may not be appreciated by all, but as we write for the farmers of Canada, we believe they will duly appreciate them, and that good will result to the country by giving them consideration.

For the satisfaction of visitors to the Provincial and other Exhibitions, we would suggest that the judging of the prize stock should take place at the time the largest number of visitors are on the ground, or that the prize animals should be out at stated times on Wednesday and Thursday, as herdsmen do not care to show their stock much after the prizes are awarded. It generally takes some time to decide on the best, and the show rings are much fuller before the award is given than afterwards. There were no animals out of the stalls or stables; for some cause or other, the herdsmen did not show a desire to display their stock as much at this exhibition as at the western exhibitions.

### SEED WHEAT.

The Canada Company have, for a series of years, given \$100 to the Association for the encouragement and spread of the best fall wheat. The Canada Company are to be lauded for their generosity. We would suggest to the Association a means whereby greater good may be done, or, in fact, where we believe an injury has been done by the awarding of this prize. (See last month's paper, page 182, on "Classification of Wheat.") The Association gave a second prize of \$40 to the same variety; also the same variety carries off

the first prize as the best white wheat. There are other varieties more hardy, more profitable, and of better quality, which cannot gain a prize, and yet they yield double the profit to the grower and to the country.

The Association gave a special prize for hybridized wheat; this might, perhaps, induce other persons to attempt hybridizing. Perhaps some members of the Board might deem it proper to encourage the introduction of new varieties, with reports of their success, as some of the imported varieties have proved highly advantageous.

Many implements are exhibited, and awards have to be made. Judges would like to know which were the best, but without actual test many awards are made that do not prove correct when the implements are put to actual work. Would it not be well to engage a field near the grounds, on which such implements as cannot be judged otherwise might be tested, such as the harrows, gang plows, scarifiers, cultivators, drills, planters, potato diggers, subsoilers, &c., &c.? Or would it not be well to have a special trial of such implements, instead of the Provincial Plowing Match or in connection with it the coming year?

Some stock men claim that Canadian breeders should be just as much encouraged as foreign breeders, and that as Canadians pay the prizes, they should be entitled to receive them. At the present time, high fed British stock, some of which cannot breed or propagate and are only fit to look at, are awarded double the prizes that Canadian stock is. Perhaps it might be well to award special prizes for imported stock.

At the annual meeting of delegates, as usual the President delivered a long and good address. There were two new subjects introduced in it on which discussions might be held. One was the commendation of the Government Farm to the public; the other was for a grant of money for the American Centennial. Not one of the delegates asked a question in regard to either of the above subjects. The great work of the meeting was to select a place for the holding of the next Provincial Exhibition. The votes were taken for Hamilton, Kingston and Guelph; Hamilton received the largest number of votes, and Guelph the next largest. Hamilton was not prepared to give the guarantee for the necessary accommodation. Time was allowed for doing so. Should the necessary arrangement not be made by February, the Board of Directors can make such arrangements as they please. Should Hamilton fail to comply, most probably the Exhibition will be held in Guelph.

A dissatisfaction and jealousy regarding the holding of the Exhibitions at different localities is creeping in. Some of the cities are becoming careless about expending so much money for it. There is some talk of making it permanent in some place; some consider the money should be divided and given to particular cities, and others consider that if the Government would leave agriculturists entirely to themselves and let them manage their grain and stock exhibitions, that they would be better attended to. The above subjects should be discussed in Granges and other Farmers' Clubs, and we shall be pleased to publish the results of any such discussions, or other persons' opinions regarding them.